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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q68419

Takashi SHIMADA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/070,379

Group Art Unit: 2856

Confirmation No.: 2812

Examiner: Jacques M. SAINT SURIN

Filed: March 06, 2002

For: STRUCTURE INSPECTION APPARATUS

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

MAR 08 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 4, 2003, please consider the remarks as submitted herewith.

REMARKS

Claims 14-27 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claims 14, 17 and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Shimada (U.S. Patent No. 5,612,495); claims 14-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Shimada (U.S. Patent No. 6,591,681); and claims 14-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(f) because the applicant did not invent the claimed subject matter. Reconsideration and removal of these rejections are respectfully requested on the basis of the present amendment to the claims and the following remarks.